

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): An installation for intermediate storage of flat articles, the installation comprising:

a plurality of primary transport paths;

at least one secondary transport path;

a plurality of stations (1) for establishing and dissolving storage formations each comprising a multitude of the articles, and for dissolving storage formations, said stations having entrances located at ends of a plurality of the primary transport paths;

a plurality of mobile supporting elements (2) for storage formations and constructed to support one storage formation each and to be inserted into and retracted from the stations through the entrances;

a plurality of storage spaces (2.1, 2.2) for storing the supporting elements (2), the storage places being located on a plurality of the primary transport paths; with or without storage formation as well as

means at least one positioning device for positioning and retrieving supporting elements (2) and for transporting the supporting elements (2) along the primary paths, the at least one positioning device being movable forward and backward; and in and from stations (1) and storage spaces (2.1, 2.2) and transporting said supporting elements (2) between stations (1) and storage spaces (2.1, 2.2), wherein the storage spaces (2.1, 2.2) are situated on a plurality of primary transport paths (3) and entrances of the stations (1) at ends of primary transport paths (3), at least a part of the primary transport paths (3) intersect a secondary transport path (4), and the installation further comprises at least one actively displaceable positioning device (5) for retrieving, by pulling, and for positioning, by pushing, one supporting

~~element (2) and for transporting the supporting element (2) along the primary transport paths and~~

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at least one ~~actively displaceable~~ orienting device (6, 6') for transporting the at least one positioning device with or without supporting element (2) along the at least one secondary transport path (4) and for re-orienting the one positioning device (5) changing an orientation thereof;

wherein at least part of the primary transport paths cross the at least one secondary transport path, and wherein the at least one positioning device and the at least one orienting device are operable independently of each other.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented): The installation according to claim 1, wherein the primary transport paths (3) run parallel to one another and transverse to the at least one secondary transport path (4).

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): The installation according to claim 1, wherein the at least one positioning device (5) is an elevating truck (20) with a forklift (21).

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): The installation according to claim 1, wherein the at least one positioning device (5) is displaceable along guide means.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The installation according to claim 4, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the guide means are rails or electrical guide lines.

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): The installation according to claim 1, wherein the at least one orienting device (6, 6') comprises means for holding the positioning device (5) and means for rotating the positioning device (5) around a vertical rotation axis (B).

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The installation according to claim 6, wherein the means for rotating around a vertical axis (B) comprise a rotatable

supporting frame (32) suspended from a supporting beam (30).

Claim 8 (Previously Presented): The installation according to claim 7, wherein the vertical axis (B) passes through the area of the center of gravity of the positioning device (5) being carried by the orienting device (6) and being loaded with a supporting element (2) with a storage formation.

Claim 9 (Previously Presented): The installation according to claim 6, wherein the at least one orienting device (6, 6') is designed for simultaneously re-orienting and transporting the one positioning device (5.1) together with a further positioning device (5.2).

Claim 10 (Previously Presented): The installation according to claim 9, wherein the vertical axis (B) is positioned between the two positioning devices (5.1, 5.2) carried by the orienting device (6').

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): The installation according to claim 6, wherein the means for holding comprises a supporting frame (32) and a running substratum (33) arranged in the lower zone of the supporting frame (32), wherein the running substratum (33) is designed in such a manner, that the positioning device (5) is displaceable on it.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): The installation according to claim 6, wherein the at least one orienting device (6, 6') additionally comprises means for elevating or lowering the positioning device (5).

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): The installation according to claim 12, wherein the means for elevating or lowering comprises a plurality of chain hoists (40), which are synchronously driven and coupled with the supporting beam (30).

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): The installation according to claim 1,

wherein the orienting device (6, 6') is movable along a pair of rails (31).

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Claim 15 (Currently Amended): The installation according to claim 1, wherein the ~~device additionally~~ installation further comprises at least one tertiary partial device (10) for transporting orienting devices (6, 6') along tertiary transport paths.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented): The installation according to claim 15, wherein the at least one tertiary partial device (10) is an elevator.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented): The installation according to claim 1, wherein the stations (1) for establishing or dissolving storage formations are arranged in the area of a first secondary transport path (4.1) and that at least one further, secondary transport path (4.2), parallel to the first secondary transport path (4.1), is provided.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): The installation according to claim 1, wherein the storage formations are imbricated formations of flat articles wound onto roll cores (11) and the stations (1) are winding stations.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): The installation according to claim 18, wherein the supporting elements (2) are roll stands with roll cores (11) rotatably installed thereon.

Claim 20 (New): The installation according to claim 1, wherein the at least one positioning device (5) is movable forward with one of the supporting elements on its front side, with regard to the direction of travel, and is movable backward with one of the supporting elements on its back side, with regard to the direction of travel.
